allowances and other benefits to RRB employees;

(b) Framing of RRBs (Appointment and promotion of officers and other employees) Rules and issuing of notification under Section 29 of the RRBs Act, 1976;

(c) Framing of Staff Service Regulations to be adopted by the Board of Directors of RRBs and issuing of notification under Section 30 of the RRBs Act, 1976.

Instructions in regard to (a) above have already been issued by NABARD on 20-3-93. In regard to (b) and (c) above, draft of the Rules and Regulations have been prepared. Sponsor Banks of RRBs were requested on 8-4-93 to offer their comments, if any, so that necessary modifications|improvements could be incorporated before these Rules|Regulations are formally notified. Comments from 16 sponsor banks have been received so far. The sponsor banks who have not yet sent their comments were reminded to send the same by 15th December, 1993.

PROMOTION IN RURAL BANKS

2526. SHRI ASHIS SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has allowed to continue the promotions from Officer to Senior Manager|Area Manager in the Rural Banks in their letter to Sponsoring Banks on 8th April, 1993;

(b) if so, how Central Bank of India has taken plea of further instruction from NABARD for such promotion in case of Mandala Balaghat Grameen Bank; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government NABARD ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) advised all Sponsor Banks of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) vide its letter dated 8-4-93 inter-alia that consequent upon the abolition of the posts of Senior Clerk and Field Supervisor in the RRBs with effect from 1-9-1987, no promotion can be effected from Subordinate to clerical cadre and from clerical to officer cadre unless statutory Rules in this regard are amended. It also advised the Sponsor Banks that RRBs may effect promotions from Officers Scale I to Area Manager|Senior Manager equated with Officers of Scale II of the Sponsor Banks, after they (Sponsor Banks) are satisfied about the necessity of such promotions. They shall, however be guided by the instructions issued by NABARD regarding the criteria for creation of Scale II posts, the eligibility etc.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

IMPORT OF SOYA OIL FROM U.S.

2527. SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item published in the Economic Times of 4th October, 1993 under the caption "US Soya Oil arrives";

(b) if so, the quantity imported and unloaded at Bombay|Kandla, Calcutta|Madras Ports till date and the amount credited to the National Renewal Fund so far ?

(c) by when the next shipment is expected and the details thereof;

(d) whether Minister of Civil Supplies has recommended that fresh imports be unloaded at Madras Port so as to cater to the requirements of Vanaspati Units|Refineries in the South Zone; and